

INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF FLORAL PARK
Board of Trustees Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2024 8:00 pm
Village Hall Courtroom

Join Zoom Meeting
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Meeting ID: 857 7425 8613
Passcode: 059003
Dial: 1(646)5588656

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:00 PM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank Chiara, Jennifer Stewart and Michael Longobardi, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Deputy Village Administrator Darlene Lanza, Deputy Village Clerk Lara Verbanac, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane. Village Clerk Joseph E. O’Grady was not in attendance.

Mayor Fitzgerald announced that prior to moving the agenda, the residents have the opportunity to make comments or ask questions on items that are on the agenda only. There being none, he asked Village Clerk to move the agenda as follows:

On motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board approved the following minutes:

- Tuesday, September 3rd, 2024, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting

Trustee Chiara offered **Resolution No. 2024-208** to approve the Schedule of Accounts Payable as follows:

General Fund	\$ 759,130.84
Pool Fund	\$ 25,209.51
Library Fund	\$ 76,195.86
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 1,606,182.14</u>
Total	\$ 2,466,718.35

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Stewart and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Stewart offered **Resolution No. 2024-209** authorizing the following budget transfers:

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
001.7110.0406 Supplies	001.7110.0450 Repairs to Building	\$500.00
001.7110.0406 Supplies	001.7110.0460 Repairs to Truck	\$800.00

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Longobardi and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Longobardi offered the following resolutions relating to personnel matters:

Resolution No. 2024-210 to appoint Jaclyn Battaglia as Deputy Village Treasurer to fill the unexpired term of former Deputy Village Treasurer through March 31, 2025 at an annual salary of \$105,000.00 effective September 23, 2024 subject to Nassau County Civil Service Commission approval;

Resolution No. 2024-211 to authorize the promotion of Eileen Stephens to a full time Neighborhood Aide in the police department at the contractual annual rate of \$41,922.00 subject to medical/drug/alcohol screenings and Nassau County Civil Service Commission approval;

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Pombonyo and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Trustee Stewart	- Aye
Trustee Longobardi	- Aye
Mayor Fitzgerald	- Aye

Trustee Pombonyo offered the following resolutions authorizing the Village to enter into the following Agreements / Contracts:

Resolution No. 2024-212 to authorize the Mayor to sign the Fire Department Protective Services Agreement in the amount of \$97,000 covering the period June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025.

Resolution No. 2024-213 to ratify the approval for the Village to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with the Village of Bellerose wherein the Village of Floral Park will provide Street Sweeping Services as outlined in the IMA

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Chiara and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Trustee Stewart	- Aye
Trustee Longobardi	- Aye
Mayor Fitzgerald	- Aye

Trustee Chiara offered **Resolution No. 2024-214** to approve changes to the Floral Park Fire Department’s Bylaws as follows:

Article VIII – Section 7 – Company Officers
 Section 7A – Requirements for rank of Ex-Chief
 Firematic – shall have served four (4) consecutive terms, including one (1) complete term as Chief of the Department unless otherwise approved by Council in the event of a vacancy in office
 Rescue – shall have served four (4) consecutive terms as Rescue Chief unless otherwise approved by Council in the event of a vacancy in office.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Stewart and adopted on roll call as follows:

Trustee Pombonyo	- Aye
Trustee Chiara	- Aye
Trustee Stewart	- Aye
Trustee Longobardi	- Aye
Mayor Fitzgerald	- Aye

Trustee Stewart offered **Resolution No. 2024-215** be it is hereby resolved that pursuant to §65-3 of the Code of the Incorporated Village of Floral Park (“Code”) that the property known by the street address “193 Beech Street, Floral Park, NY 11001” and identified on the Nassau County Land and Tax Map as Section 32, Block 210, Lot 214-215 is not in compliance with Section 65-2. H of the Code by reason of rubbish, rubble and discarded material accumulated thereon, Section 65-2. B uncut grass, weeds, brush or any portion of said growth to obtain a height in excess of 12 inches, and Section 65-6 A. the owner, operator or occupant shall ... maintain accessory structures and appurtenant equipment in suitable condition and good repair, capable of performing the function for which the same was designed or intended to be used all as specified in the Village Ordinance Notice of Violation, dated July 24, 2024, issued by the Department of Buildings of the Incorporated Village of Floral Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the owner or person in control of said premises shall comply with the above-referenced provisions of the Code by removing said rubbish, rubble and discarded material, repairing said structures, and cut the overgrown grass and weeds within seven (7) days of the postmark of the Notice of Adoption of this Resolution to be mailed to said own or person in control of the subject property. In case of

such failure to comply, the owner and/or person in control of the property whereon the violation occurs is deemed to consent to the right of entry by the Village officials for the sole purpose of inspecting and correcting such violation, whereas the Board of Trustees authorizes the work to be done and pay the cost thereof out of general funds appropriated by the Board of Trustees for such purpose, whereas The Village shall be reimbursed for the cost of the work performed or the services rendered, as hereinabove provided, by assessment against the lots or parcels of land where such work was performed or services were rendered for so much of the actual or complete cost as incurred upon and from each lot or lots by the assessment of all such cost of such removal, including legal fees against the real property affected.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Longobardi and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Longobardi offered **Resolution No. 2024-216** to authorize Change Order #1 dated 9/13/2024 to Road Work Ahead. in the amount of \$98,000.00 for the Tulip Ave Pedestrian Walkway as described and authorize Village Administrator to sign said change order.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Pombonyo and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Pombonyo offered the following resolutions authorizing refund payments as presented:

Resolution No. 2024-217 to authorize the refund payment of \$89.25 to Philip Mark for required finger printing for Floral Park Fire Department membership requirements

Resolution No. 2024-218 to authorize the refund payments for property tax overpayments:

- a) Section: 8 Block: 95 Lot: 36A (84-51 266th St), refund of \$33.46 to Mr. Bachan Singh
- b) Section: 8 Block: 62 Lots: 109-152 (287 Jericho Tpk), refund of \$56.77 to Ryan, LLC
- c) Section:32 Block: 210 Lots 34-40 (11 Cedar Pl), refund of \$2,932.55 to Corelogic.

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Chiara and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

Trustee Chiara offered **Resolution No. 2024-219** to approve the surplus of DPW vehicles listed below and authorize the Village Administer to sign titles as required for vehicle disposal:

- a) 2007 International, Truck #35 vin# 1HTWGAZT18J641630
- b) 1995 GMC Safari vin# 1GKDM19W6SB546753

The Resolution was seconded by Trustee Stewart and adopted on roll call as follows:

- Trustee Pombonyo - Aye
- Trustee Chiara - Aye
- Trustee Stewart - Aye
- Trustee Longobardi - Aye
- Mayor Fitzgerald - Aye

On a motion by Trustee Stewart, seconded by Trustee Longobardi and carried unanimously, the Board approved the use of public facilities subject to the receipt of certificate of insurance and sound device permit, if applies as presented below:

- Wednesday's Mothers' Club use of the Stewart Street Parking Field for their annual Trunk or Treat event on 10/19 (RD of 10/20) from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM which includes the time for set-up and clean-up.
- AHRC – Floral Park Auxiliary meeting dates at the Floral Park Pool Building in the Tulip Room from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on 9/19, 10/17, 11/21, 12/19, 1/16, 2/20, 4/17, 5/15 and 6/19.
- Floral Park PBA for the use of Fireman's Hall on Saturday, December 7th from 11 AM to 2:00 PM for the annual PBA Children's Christmas Party.

Deputy Mayor Lynn Pombonyo

Police Department

This year, we are congratulating and thanking Floral Park Police Benevolent Association (PBA) President and FPPD Sergeant Matthew Viscusi and our Police for 100 years of service and protection for the Village of Floral Park. We are blessed to have a strong and caring Police Department and PBA who make our homes and businesses safe and enjoyable. And Commissioner McAllister, we send our gratitude for your leadership.

A strong, current focus for our FPPD is Investigating Construction Fraud. Unfortunately, a pattern of this crime is sweeping the Long Island region, if not the entire country. It comes to our front doors, telephones, emails and texts, and FPPD is on it from education to prevention to enforcement and prosecution.

Lieutenant William Doherty has developed and posted comprehensive "Door-to-Door Home Improvement Scams" warnings with sections on "What to Watch Out For" and "Ten Things You Can Do to Avoid Construction Scams." Please check the Floral Park Police Department Facebook page, read this important home safety information, and share it with family and friends.

If you have questions, call the Building Department at 516-326-6319. If you suspect or know that you are dealing with or have experienced an incident with a person engaging in a scam or fraud, call the FPPD immediately. And do not let such a person into your home.

Help our FPPD prevent crime and keep us safe!

Conservation Society (FPCS)

Our Centennial Gardens and Bird Sanctuary is filled with a rich variety of flowers, plants, animals and even vegetables for all to admire. For decades, the vegetables cultivated in our Giving Gardens have been used to support the Our Lady of Victory food pantry and the Mary Brennan INN soup kitchen of Hempstead, amongst others.

For many reasons, including the fact that Centennial Gardens is public property, guests to the Gardens may not pick the flowers, gather vegetables, or transplant the greenery to other locations. While it's been a glorious Summer 2024 in the Best Public Garden of Nassau County, public does not mean that guests can carry it out and take it home. In addition, there are security cameras at various spots inside the Gardens to protect the safety of the people inside as well as the animals, birds, trees and plants that call Centennial Gardens home.

All the while, we are getting ready for our annual FPCS Fairie Forest Festival on Saturday, October 26th, 1-4 PM. Visit the Floral Park Centennial Gardens Facebook page for the beautiful photo announcement.

Chambers of Commerce and Our Businesses

Our Covert Avenue Chamber of Commerce meets on Tuesday, September 24th, 7PM at Shintaro Asian Bistro on Covert Avenue in Stewart Manor. There, meet all the local area business owners as we all join in planning the awesome Covert Avenue Street Fair on Saturday, October 5th, 11AM to 5PM. There'll be fun for the whole family!

Visit covertavenuechamber.org to register and learn more about us.

Last week, the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce opened the fall season at BC Bistro on Jericho Turnpike. About a dozen new businesses were welcomed and productive networking was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Floral Park Superintendent of Buildings, Renee Marcus, who provided all the latest and greatest about impressive building improvements taking place.

And, most important, SHOPPING AND DINING LOCAL, it's the very BEST OF NASSAU COUNTY right here in Floral Park and Stewart Manor!

Floral Park Historical Society

President Ann Corbett and the Historical Society invite all to their 25th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 27th, 4PM at Swing the Teapot. Save the date and watch for details on the VFP Facebook page.

Trustee Frank Chiara

Fire Department

The Fire Department sadly announced the passing of Ex-Chief Frank Cantreva. Frank volunteered for the Floral Park Fire Department for 52 years and was a member of the Hook and Ladder Company. He considered the Fire Department his second family and dedicated countless hours to helping his neighbors in need. Frank was not only dedicated to his service in the Fire Department, but was also a vibrant member of our community. For many years, he volunteered as a Little League coach and led his teams to two District Championships. He also mentored young adults, guiding them into the workforce and assisting them with their careers.

Frank is survived by his wife, Patty, son, Joseph and daughter, Kerry. Frank and his family embody what makes our community such a special place to live. Not only did he and his family enjoy living in our Village, but he also gave himself to ensure others could enjoy living here as well.

We extend our sincere condolences to the Cantreva Family, with gratitude and thanks, especially for all of Frank's volunteer services. May he rest in peace and continue to look over us all.

For the Month of August, our calls for service are as follows: The Fire Company answered 30 calls, including 2 mutual aid calls; the Rescue Company answered 10 calls; and NYU Langone answered 80 calls, for a total of 120 for the month of August.

The Floral Park and Stewart Manor Fire Departments will be at the Covert Avenue Street Fair on October 5th, demonstrating fire safety tips. The Departments will also have their recruitment tables out for those interested in joining.

Additionally on recruitment, the Department is planning an open house on October 6th for those who would like to learn more. They are always seeking new members, so please consider joining.

Library

This Saturday, September 21st from 10 AM to 4 PM the Friends of the Library will be hosting their Annual Lawn Sale on the library lawn. Come browse, shop and support the Friends of the Library! There is usually something for everyone to enjoy.

If you are interested in reserving a space at the sale, contact the Library Circulation Desk. The reservation fee is \$25.00. Only checks are accepted. Space may be limited.

When you visit the library, you will be treated to the most interesting art display by Kathy Tyson. Kathy, a Friends of the Library member, uses the art of book folding to evoke memories of the past in the world of books. Her art work is accompanied by quotes and bookend figurines related to the books. Kathy is very talented, and her art work is truly amazing. Stop by to see this extraordinary display. Thank You, Kathy!

Trustee Jennifer Stewart

Mayor Fitzgerald and I were happy to join the Floral Park Chamber of Commerce in celebrating the grand openings of three new local businesses: Tulip Cigar Shop, Here and Now Yoga, and Woodbine Dental. Their grand opening was held on Saturday, September 14th. We welcome these new businesses and wish them many years of success.

4VS

We would like to remind residents that 4VS runs a Community Billboard, which can be viewed on the channel as well as on the 4VS studio website at 4VS.org. It is the most comprehensive listing of Village events.

MTA/LIRR

Please continue to reach out to the MTA at MTA.info with questions and concerns.

DPW

At approximately 4:00 AM on September 3rd, an individual who was apparently intoxicated activated the fire suppression system over the fuel pumps at the DPW Garage. Due to the investigative work of the Floral Park Police Department Detectives Timm and King, under the supervision of Lieutenant Doherty, the suspect was apprehended and charged with a felony. The Village is pursuing \$8,000 in damages.

DPW crews set up for both beautiful 9/11 Memorial Ceremonies in our Village, at the relic at Village Hall and at the Reliance Firehouse. Crews lined the newly paved streets in the West End and filled potholes where needed. We collected 65 tons of waste, 8 tons of paper and cardboard, 6 tons of plastic and glass and 15 tons of bulk rubbish. Terrace Avenue and Stewart Street have been scheduled for repaving, with Stewart Street on Friday and Terrace Avenue on Saturday. Residents should expect full road closures while the work is ongoing.

Trustee Michael Longobardi

Building Department

I am happy to begin tonight with progress happening on Covert Avenue. Construction for the proposed restaurant at 99 Covert Avenue has begun. The owner/developer of the covert fire property has notified the

Village that they are ready to begin construction in the next few weeks. Permits have been issued and we will soon see some construction equipment staged on the site and modifications to the fence gates to accommodate the staging and set up. The foundation work will start in late September or beginning of October. Framing is just about complete on 1 Carnation Avenue and roofing will start this week. The pedestrian walkway connecting Tulip Avenue to the Spur Parking Lot is complete and open. Thank you to Nassau County for funding 50% of this project. The next meeting for ARB is Wednesday, September 25th. One of the applications for review is a subdivision proposal for 155 Beech Street.

Please be aware that even if a project at your home does not require a permit all home improvement work performed by anyone except the homeowner must be insured and licensed by Nassau County Department of Consumer Affairs. Home improvement work includes repair, maintenance, replacement, remodeling, alteration, conversion, modernization, or addition to any land or building. You can contact the Building Department or the Nassau County Office of Consumer Affairs directly if you have any questions or suspect a contractor may not hold a valid license.

Recreation and Pool

We would like to caution all residents coming to the recreation center of the ongoing construction in the area. Stewart Street and Terrace Avenue are in the process of being resurfaced. A new cross walk and ramps are being installed where Terrace Avenue and Stewart Street meet for a safer path to the park. The main entrance to the park on Stewart Street is closed starting today through Saturday, September 21st; the main front path entering the park is being redone. Please use extra caution at this time.

Last night the Pool and Recreation committees held an end of season review to discuss what went well this summer and areas that need improvement before next season. We had a great pool season and we will be looking at ways to increase pool membership before next year. We are also considering new programs and half day activities to increase participation in the summer rec programs. Some programs may have become outdated and others may run on a trial basis to see what interest they spark. We hope to present more in the coming months as we start to prepare for next year. We also welcome any suggestions you may have.

Fall activities have started at the park. Floral Park Little League Fall Program, Women's Kickball, Indians Soccer and Titans Football are all underway. Fall registration for all youth, adult and senior programs is currently ongoing. Some programs have already started. The 26th Annual Liz's Day event to support research and development of treatments and cure for breast cancer will take place Saturday, September 28th at the recreation Center. This event started 26 years ago to spread awareness and raise funds for breast cancer research after lifelong resident Elizabeth McFarland lost her life to breast cancer. Please come out and have some fun while supporting a great cause that effects so many.

Town-Village Aircraft Safety & Noise Abatement Committee (TVASNAC)

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 23, 2024 at Town of Hempstead Town Hall, One Washington Street in Hempstead. If you want to make a noise complaint regarding air traffic, you can call 1-800-225-1071. You can also go to our Village website which has the links under the TVASNAC noise complaint contact information page on our home page.

Emergency Management

Recently, the Floral Park Lions Club in conjunction with the Governor's Office and the Village of Floral Park hosted a Citizen Preparedness Training Seminar. This program taught residents the basic tools and resources needed for many types of disasters. The tools included, how to develop a family emergency plan, stocking up on supplies, what goes into an emergency preparedness kit, planning for your pets and much more. Presenters were members of the NY National Guard. This program is available to any organization or group that would like this valuable training and information. Please visit www.prepare.ny.gov for additional information. Thank you to the Floral Park Lions Club for hosting.

Mayor Kevin Fitzgerald

I would like the residents to be aware of two upcoming events taking place in our Village. This Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at Fire Fighters Hall, an engineer will come to discuss the upcoming drainage projects taking place in Floral Park, particularly at the intersection of Hickory Street and Cedar Place, as well as Mayfair Avenue and Clover Avenue. Additionally, and the long awaited and designed Belmont Recharge Basin within Belmont Park. The project is primarily funded by a grant from Congressman D'Esposito's Office. I would like to call attention and invite the residents who live in those areas to the meeting so they can learn about what will happen and what has transpired over the years especially on Hickory Street and Cedar Place. The engineer will be here to answer any and all questions on the project.

Secondly, this Saturday, September 21, 2024 is the Floral Park Memorial Homecoming Parade. Please come out and cheer-on not only our football team but the high school students who show immerse pride in their school and community.

I'd also like to further comment on Deputy Mayor Pombonyo's report, and congratulate the PBA on their anniversary and thank them for doing a great job over the last 100 years in keeping Floral Park one of the safest places to be, with their upmost professionalism, kindness and courtesy.

At 8:27 PM on motion by Trustee Pombonyo, seconded by Trustee Chiara, and carried unanimously, the Board closed the business meeting and opened to the public.

The Mayor re-opened the meeting for public session at 8:28 PM. At 8:43 PM Trustee Pombonyo motioned to go into Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Chiara and carried unanimously, the Board went into Executive Session.

Present were Mayor Kevin M. Fitzgerald, Trustees Lynn Pombonyo, Frank Chiara, Jennifer Stewart and Michael Longobardi, Village Administrator Gerry Bambrick, Deputy Village Administrator Darlene Lanza, Deputy Village Clerk Lara Verbanac, Village Attorney John Ryan, Superintendent of Buildings Renee Marcus, Police Commissioner Stephen McAllister, and Superintendent of Public Works Kevin Ginnane. Village Clerk Joseph E. O'Grady was not in attendance.

The Board discussed personnel and litigation matters.

At 10.55 PM on September 3, 2024. Trustee Stewart motioned to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Trustee Longobardi and carried unanimously.

The meeting ended at 11:00 PM on September 17, 2024.

Joseph E. O'Grady
Village Clerk